

Message Text

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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 182816

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, EAID, SREF, PORG, XE

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/RA - HERBERT HOROWITZ

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

1. FMS REPROGRAMMING TO COVER KENYA NEEDS (CONFIDENTIAL)

THE SCC ON JULY 13 AUTHORIZED \$12 MILLION IN FY 78 FMS
FINANCING FOR KENYA BUT DEFERRED A DECISION ON THE RE-
PROGRAMMING NEEDED TO EFFECT THIS AUTHORIZATION. WE
OPPOSED A DRAFT PM RECOMMENDATION TO THE ACTING SECRETARY
WHICH WOULD HAVE TAKEN \$5 MILLION OF THE NEEDED \$12
MILLION FROM TAIWAN, (THE REMAINING \$7 MILLION WOULD
COME FROM JORDAN), AS WELL AS HA'S RECOMMENDATION FOR
REPROGRAMMING \$4 MILLION FROM THE PHILIPPINES AND \$4
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MILLION FROM INDONESIA. WE HAVE ALSO ARGUED AGAINST
THAILAND OR MALAYSIA ABSORBING THE CUTS. PM IS CURRENTLY
REVIEWING THE BIDDING AND HAS PROMISED TO COME BACK TO
US WITH A SECOND DRAFT OF ITS MEMO.

2. ASIA FOUNDATION WINS NEW LEASE ON LIFE (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

CULMINATING A LONG STRUGGLE, THE ASIA FOUNDATION LAST WEEK WON SENATOR INOUE'S GRUDGING AGREEMENT TO LIFT HIS OBJECTION TO DISTRIBUTION OF \$2 MILLION OF FY 78 AID GENERAL PURPOSE FUNDS WHICH WILL KEEP THE FOUNDATION IN BUSINESS UNTIL ROUGHLY THE END OF THE CALENDAR YEAR.

EARLIER IN THE SPRING AID RELEASED \$1 MILLION OF THE \$3 MILLION FY 78 FUNDS EARMARKED FOR THE FOUNDATION; HOWEVER, THE AGENCY CONCLUDED IT COULD NOT RELEASE THE FINAL \$2 MILLION WITHOUT APPROVAL FROM INOUE IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. DESPITE STRONG ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT FOR THE FOUNDATION, WHICH WOULD HAVE RUN OUT OF FUNDS BY THE END OF JULY, INOUE STUCK FIRMLY TO HIS OPPOSITION AND TOLD AF PRESIDENT HAYDEN WILLIAMS ON JULY 14 HE DEFINITELY WOULD NOT LIFT HIS OBJECTION. ON THE NEXT DAY HOWEVER, AMIDST INTENSE LOBBYING, INOUE'S EFFORT TO RALLY SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS' SUPPORT FOR HIS POSITION RAN INTO SUBSTANTIAL OPPOSITION, AT WHICH POINT THE SENATOR REVERSED HIS EARLIER POSITION.

THE FOUNDATION REALIZES THAT IT HAS NOT DISPELLED SENATOR INOUE'S AND SOME OTHER MEMBERS' DOUBTS ABOUT ITS OPERATIONS AND ITS 80/20 MIX OF PUBLIC VS. PRIVATE FUNDING, AND THAT IT FACES A LOT OF WORK TO AVOID ANOTHER CONFIDENTIAL

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FRONTATION NEXT YEAR. AF HAS IN FACT DONE MUCH BETTER IN RAISING PRIVATE FUNDING IN THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS AND PLANS TO REDOUBLE THESE EFFORTS. IT ALSO PLANS TO SEEK GUIDANCE ON THE HILL AS TO FURTHER STEPS IT MIGHT TAKE TO WIN BROADER AND FIRMER FUTURE ACCEPTANCE. THE ISSUE COULD REEMERGE AS SOON AS A MONTH FROM NOW WHEN AID'S FY 79 APPROPRIATION IS SCHEDULED FOR MARK-UP IN THE SENATE.

3. REFUGEES (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

HA/ORM DIRECTOR LOWMAN RETURNED JULY 15 FROM HIS SOUTH-EAST ASIAN TDY AND MET JULY 18 WITH DEPASSTSEC OAKLEY AND REFUGEE COORDINATOR FRIEDMAN TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE MEASURES BY WHICH THE US AND OTHER NATIONS MIGHT ATTEMPT TO COPE WITH THE BOAT PEOPLE BUILDUP IN MALAYSIAN CAMPS. LOWMAN REPORTED THAT VISITS TO THE REFUGEE CAMPS HAD MADE A PROFOUND IMPRESSION ON CODEL WOLFF STAFFERS CLINE AND ENDRES. MEANWHILE, FRIEDMAN HAS PUT TOGETHER A COLLECTION OF CASE RECORDS OF SOME 89 REFUGEE BOATS

(WITH OVER 3,800 REFUGEES ABOARD) THAT ESCAPED FROM

VIETNAM TO MALAYSIA SINCE THE BEGINNING OF APRIL. WE ARE ALSO WORKING WITH HA/ORM TO PREPARE TALKING POINTS ON THE INDOCHINESE REFUGEE ISSUE FOR THE US-ASEAN TALKS.

4. NAM TO MEET (UNCLASSIFIED)

THE NAM FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN BELGRADE IS TO BEGIN JULY 25 AND RUN THROUGH JULY 29. PREPARATORY MEETINGS AT THE AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL WILL PRECEDE THE NAM CONFERENCE. MANY OF OUR POSTS HAVE BEEN ON THE RECEIVING END OF DEPARTMENTAL ANALYSES AND TALKING POINTS RELATING TO THIS CONFERENCE. THERE HAS BEEN MUCH PRE-LIMINARY TALK ABOUT THE CUBAN ROLE AND WHETHER IT CAN BE MUTED, WHETHER THE GREATER DRIVE OF THE RADICALS

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AS OPPOSED TO THE MODERATE NAM MEMBERS CAN BE ABATED SOMEWHAT, AND WHETHER THE NAM WILL BE WILLING OR ABLE TO MODIFY ITS LEFTWARD DRIFT. IT IS FAR FROM CLEAR, HOWEVER, HOW THINGS WILL DEVELOP IN NEXT WEEK'S MEETINGS.

5. POSSIBLE MINISTERIAL LEVEL SC MEETINGS (CONFIDENTIAL)

LAST WEEK DURING PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS AMONG SC MEMBERS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF A MINISTERIAL LEVEL COUNCIL MEETING IN SEPTEMBER OR EARLY OCTOBER, THE CURRENT SC PRESIDENT, BARTON OF CANADA, FOUND VARYING DEGREES OF APPROVAL OR ACQUIESCENCE EXCEPT FROM THE CHINESE AND THE SOVIETS. THE RUSSIANS EXPRESSED SKEPTICISM ABOUT THE IDEA AND INDICATED CONCERN ABOUT HAVING THE CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER PRESENT WITH THEIRS IN AN UNSTRUCTURED DISCUSSION IN THE SC. THE CHINESE FOR THEIR PART WERE EVEN MORE NEGATIVE. WHILE SAYING THEY ARE WILLING TO TALK WITH THEIR FRIENDS AND EXCHANGE VIEWS ON VARIOUS PROBLEMS, THE NOTION OF OPEN-ENDED DISCUSSION INVOLVING THE SOVIETS WAS UNACCEPTABLE. BARTON HAS TOLD US THAT HE INFORMED BOTH THE CHINESE AND THE SOVIETS THAT HE WOULD NONETHELESS BE PURSUING THE IDEA IN INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

6. JAPAN AND NAMIBIA (CONFIDENTIAL)

AS PREPARATIONS MOVE AHEAD TO IMPLEMENT THE RECENT (ALBEIT FRAGILE) AGREEMENT RELATING TO NAMIBIA THE DEPARTMENT URGED THE JAPANESE TO UNDERTAKE EARLY PLANNING SO THAT THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE UN TRANSITION ASSISTANCE GROUP (UNTAG). SUBJECT TO A REQUEST

FROM THE SYG, SUCH A CONTRIBUTION COULD BE UNDERTAKEN

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IN A CIVILIAN CAPACITY SINCE UNTAG IS STRUCTURED AS A CIVILIAN-LED OPERATION, WITH A MILITARY COMPONENT. EMBASSY TOKYO AFTER TALKING WITH MOFA COMMENTS THAT PARTICIPATION EVEN IN A QUASI-CIVILIAN CAPACITY OF JAPANESE SELF-DEFENSE FORCES PERSONNEL WOULD BE A MAJOR DEPARTURE FOR THE GOJ WITH SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL AND FOREIGN POLICY IMPLICATIONS. THERE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE MOST CAREFUL SCRUTINY BY THE ENTIRE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT BEFORE ANY GOJ CONTRIBUTION CAN BECOME A REALITY.

7. PRE-GA CONSULTATIONS (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

BECAUSE OF THE PRESS OF UN ACTIVITY ON NAMIBIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST, DAS HELMAN'S TRIP FOR PRE-GA CONSULTATIONS IN THE ASEAN COUNTRIES (EXCEPT THAILAND) HAD TO BE POSTPONED ONCE AGAIN. NEW DATES ARE INDEFINITE BUT IT IS LIKELY THAT IF THE TRIP TAKES PLACE AT ALL IT WILL BE DURING THE SECOND HALF OF AUGUST. AMBASSADOR MCHENRY IS STILL ANXIOUS TO GO FORWARD WITH HIS TRIP TO THAILAND (AND SOUTH ASIA) BUT HE TOO HAS HAD TO POSTPONE UNTIL SOMETIME IN AUGUST. ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNE'S TRIP TO JAPAN IS CURRENTLY SCHEDULED FOR JULY 30-AUGUST 1, AND EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO KEEP THIS BUT DEVELOPMENTS ON NAMIBIA COULD FORCE CANCELLATION. CHRISTOPHER

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